

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 DODE-00

INR-05 CIAE-00 SP-02 L-01 /037 W
----- 106524

R 121201Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6615

INFO AMEMBSSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBSSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2842

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, IS, JO

SUBJECT: ISRAELI VIEWS ON MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE OF
OF WEST BANK

REF: USDAO TEL AVIV 991; TEL AVIV A-38

1. EMBASSY WISHES TO CALL TO ATTENTION OF
ADDRESSEES REF USDAO MESSAGE WHICH UPDATES AND
EXPANDS ON INFORMATION ABOUT IMPORTANCE ISRAELIS
ATTACHE TO THEIR EARLY WARNING SYSTEM ON WEST
BANK.

2. BRIEFINGS BY GUR SUGGESTING ISRAELI NEED TO
DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST SURPRISE AIR ATTACK BY
EARLY WARNING INSTALLATION AT BAAL HATZOR SEEMS
TO BE COUNTERPOINT TO CONCERN PUBLICLY EXPRESSED
BY DEFMIN PERES TWIC IN PAST WEK(TEL AVIV 2709
AND 2785) THAT RETURN OF WEST BANK TO ARAB CONTROL
WOULD CONSTITUTE PERMANENT THREAT TO ISRAEL.

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3. WE THINK ITWORTH EMPHASIZING, IN THIS CONNECTION,

UNDERSTANDABLE ISRAELIDETERMINATION TO AVOID BEING CAUGHT BY SURPRISE IN ANY POSSIBLE MILITARY ATTACK IN FUTURE. ISRAELI INTEREST IN ELECTRONIC MEANS TO PROVIDE EARY WARNING WAS HIGHLIGHTED DURING RECENT NEGOTIAIONS BY A PROPOSAL THAT ELECTRONIC WARNING SYSTEMS BE LEFT IN ANY DEMILITARIZED OR BUFFER ZONES. THOUGH IT WAS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR FROM PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AT THAT TIME, IT HAS SINCE BEEN MADE CLEAR(E.,G., PERES MENTIONED THIS TO CODEL O'NEILL) THAT GOI HAD IN MIND " ALLOWING" EGYPT TO INTALL ELCTRONIC WARNING SYSTEM ON RIDGE OF SINAI PASSES IN RETURN FOR LEAVING IN PLACE SYSTEM ALREADY BEING OPERATED BYIDF. ISRAELIS HAVE ALSO CONSTRUCTED FORMIDABLE ELECTRONIC ARRAY ON HILLS UNDER THEIR CONTROL ON GOLAN. WHILE HESITANT TO DRAW FIRM CONCLUSIONS REGARDING IMPACT OF THESE INSTALLATIONS ON FUTURE ISRAELI NEGOTIATING STRATEGY, IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT INVESTMENT IN SURVEILLANCE CURRENTLY IN BEING IN SINAI AND ON GOLAN--AND EVIDENTLY CONTEMPLATED ON WEST BANK RIDGE-LINE--WILL NOT BE READILY ABANDONED, IN ANY CASE, IT IS REASONABLE TO ASSUME THAT IN EACH AREA BENG CONSIDERED FOR ULTIMATE EVACUATION BY ISRAELIS, LATTER ARE LIKELY TO RESS HARD FOR LEAVING SOME KEY ELECTRONIC INSTALLATIONS IN PLACE.

VELIOTES

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